P/14930.WO

5

10

## **ABSTRACT**

## **FACE DETECTION**

Face detection apparatus in which an image region of a test image is compared with data indicative of the presence of a face comprises: a pre-processor operable to identify low-difference regions of the test image where there exists less than a threshold image difference across groups of pixels within those regions; and a face detector operable to perform face detection on regions of the test image other than those identified by the pre-processor as low-difference regions.

Figures 22a to 22c.